

107TH CONGRESS }
2d Session

SENATE

{ REPT. 107-158
Volume 2

DEVELOPMENTS IN AGING: 1999 AND 2000
VOLUME 2

A REPORT

OF THE

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING
UNITED STATES SENATE

PURSUANT TO

S. RES. 54, SEC. 17(c), MARCH 8, 2001

Resolution Authorizing a Study of the Problems of the
Aged and Aging



JUNE 4, 2002.—Ordered to be printed

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

U.S. SENATE,
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING
Washington, DC, 2002.

Hon. DICK CHENEY,
President, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: Under authority of Senate Resolution 54 agreed to March 8, 2001, I am submitting to you the annual report of the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging, *Developments in Aging: 1999 and 2000*, volume 2.

Senate Resolution 4, the Committee Systems Reorganization Amendments of 1977, authorizes the Special Committee on Aging “to conduct a continuing study of any and all matters pertaining to problems and opportunities of older people, including but not limited to, problems and opportunities of maintaining health, of assuring adequate income, of finding employment, of engaging in productive and rewarding activity, of securing proper housing and, when necessary, of obtaining care and assistance.” Senate Resolution 4 also requires that the results of these studies and recommendations be reported to the Senate annually.

This report describes actions taken during 1999 and 2000 by the Congress, the administration, and the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging, which are significant to our Nation’s older citizens. It also summarizes and analyzes the Federal policies and programs that are of the most continuing importance for older persons and their families.

On behalf of the members of the committee and its staff, I am pleased to transmit this report to you.

Sincerely,

JOHN B. BREAU, *Chairman.*

CONTENTS

	Page
Letter of Transmittal	III
Item 1. Department of Agriculture	1
Cooperative Extension System	1
Agricultural Research Service	2
Economic Research Service	3
Food and Nutrition Service	4
Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion	7
Food Safety and Inspection Service	7
Marketing and Regulatory Programs	8
Item 2. Department of Commerce	9
Item 3. Department of Defense	17
Item 4. Department of Education	20
Item 5. Department of Energy	54
Item 6. Department of Health and Human Services	60
Administration for Children and Families	60
Administration on Aging	67
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation	92
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	102
Food and Drug Administration	129
Health Care Financing Administration	154
National Institutes of Health	220
Health Resources and Services Administration	275
Office of Inspector General	290
Item 7. Department of Housing and Urban Development	295
Item 8. Department of the Interior	307
Item 9. Department of Justice	318
Item 10. Department of Labor	330
Item 11. Department of State	345
Item 12. Department of Transportation	347
Item 13. Department of the Treasury	359
Item 14. Commission on Civil Rights	377
Item 15. Consumer Product Safety Commission	379
Item 16. Corporation for National Service	385
Item 17. Environmental Protection Agency	399
Item 18. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission	400
Item 19. Federal Communications Commission	430
Item 20. Federal Trade Commission	445
Item 21. General Accounting Office	530
Item 22. Legal Services Corporation	628
Item 23. National Endowment for the Arts	629
Item 24. National Endowment for the Humanities	648
Item 25. Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	654
Item 26. Postal Service	691
Item 27. Railroad Retirement Board	698
Item 28. Small Business Administration	704
Item 29. Social Security Administration	705
Item 30. Veterans' Affairs	710

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Mr. BREAUX, from the Special Committee on Aging,
submitted the following

REPORT

REPORT FROM FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

ITEM 1—AGRICULTURE

COOPERATIVE STATE RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND
EXTENSION SERVICE (CSREES)

Since early 1999, USDA's CSREES has been working with families with older Americans in small towns and rural areas to make improved health care decisions. One of the strategies focuses on how 4-H Youth Technology Teams can help other Americans to bridge the Digital Divide. The program is known as Teens Teaching Internet Skills (TTIS). In a partnership with the Health Care Finance Administration, 4-H Technology Leadership Teams are helping families with older Americans to learn how to use the internet to improve the quality of decisions they make in choosing health care, housing and transportation. As a result of collaboration between young 4H member volunteers and older Americans, seniors are increasingly accessing internet web sites such as www.medicare.gov, www.seniors.gov and www.workers.gov.

In 1999, 4-H Youth Technology piloted Teens Teaching Seniors State Teams in Maryland, Virginia, Connecticut, Florida, Iowa and Washington to test approaches to help older adults to gain Internet skills. At the National Youth Technology Conference, held in July 2000 in College Park, Maryland, more than 250 youth leaders from 29 States met and learned from the six original teams, and, since then, twenty-nine States have taken the initiative to develop State action plans and to identify state youth technology leadership